

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05
SS-15 STR-05 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02
SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-11 /110 W
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R 301817Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4054
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BELIZE
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USEEC

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: XM, EEC, ETRD, EAID

SUBJECT: EC/LATIN AMERICAN SEMI-ANNUAL DIALOGUE AT

AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL, DECEMBER 12

REF: BRUSSELS 6469

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: AS REPORTED REFTEL, EC/LATIN AMERICAN AMBASSADORS' SEMI-ANNUAL DIALOGUE CONTINUES TO SUBSIST DESPITE LACK OF SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS. LATEST SESSION (DECEMBER 12), CHAIRED BY BELGIAN CHAIRMAN OF EC COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER STATES, VAN DER MEULEN, AND BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR, MEDEIROS QUEREJHIZU, WAS NO EXCEPTION: LATIN AMERICAN GROUP REHEARSED PREVIOUS DEMANDS IN AID AND TRADE FIELDS AND EC MEMBER STATE AMBASSADORS CAREFULLY DEFLECTED OR OTHERWISE POSTPONED THEIR CONSIDERATION. SOLE CONCRETE DECISION WAS TO AGREE ON TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR JOINT WORKING PARTY ON TRADE QUESTIONS WHICH IS TO EXAMINE TRADE TRENDS BETWEEN THE TWO REGIONS, AND REPORT BACK TO GROUP AT NEXT SESSION. SMALLER LATIN AMERICAN STATES CONTINUE TO SUPPORT DIALOGUE, SINCE IT GIVES THEM ADDED WEIGHT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH EC, BUT LARGER ONES, SUCH AS BRAZIL, HAVING BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH COMMUNITY, DO NOT PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE. END INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO EC COMMISSION AND COUNCIL SECRETARIAT SOURCES, MAIN THRUST OF REMARKS BY LATIN AMERICAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMBASSADORS IN HALF-DAY SESSION WAS THAT, DESPITE EC'S PROFESSED WILLINGNESS TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO LATIN AMERICAN ASPIRATIONS, NO CONCRETE STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TOWARD A COORDINATED COMMUNITY POLICY OF ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION WITH THE REGION. LATIN AMERICANS, WHO ARE CRITICAL OF WHAT THEY SEE AS EC RELUCTANCE TO BUILD CLOSER AND MORE FORMAL TIES WITH THEIR CONTINENT, REPORTEDLY FOCUSED ON POINTS WHERE THEY BELIEVE COMMUNITY SHOULD MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH LDC'S IN GENERAL, AND LATIN AMERICA IN PARTICULAR.

3. REGARDING TRADE, BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED LATIN AMERICAN FEARS ABOUT "PROTECTIONIST" TRENDS IN EC-NINE, PARTICULARLY CONCERNING IMPORTS OF TEXTILES, BEEF AND VEAL. HE REPORTED THAT A GROUP OF LATIN AMERICAN EXPERTS STUDYING EVOLUTION OF TRADE BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND LATIN AMERICA CONCLUDED THAT LATTER REGION'S SHARE IN EC IMPORTS IN 1976 WAS 50 PERCENT BELOW LEVELS REACHED IN 1958, FALLING FROM 11 PERCENT OF TOTAL EC IMPORTS IN 1958 TO 5.5 PERCENT IN 1976. CHAIRMAN OF LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATION CLAIMED THIS WAS

CAUSED BY RESTRICTIVE EC IMPORT POLICIES, PARTICULARLY AFFECTING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. IN THIS CONTEXT, LATINS EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF TRADE PROMOTION ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY EC IN FRAMEWORK OF DIALOGUE. LATIN AMERICAN SIDE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH 1977 TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAM AND HOPED THAT LIMITED EC FUNDS WOULD NOT RESULT IN A CUTBACK IN PLANNED 1978 TRADE FAIRS, EXHIBITIONS, BUSINESS SEMINARS AND VISITING COMMERCIAL MISSIONS.

4. EC SIDE, IN RESPONSE, UNDERLINED COMMUNITY'S COMMITMENT TO LIBERAL TRADE POLICIES AND EMPHASIZED THAT TEXTILES MEASURES PROPOSED BY THE NINE ARE NECESSARY TO

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R 301817Z DEC 77 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4055
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
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BRING ORDER TO WORLD TRADE IN TEXTILE PRODUCTS. IN AGREEING WITH DIALOGUE PARTNERS THAT MULTILATERAL TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE CONCLUDED BY END 1978, EC CHAIRMAN CONFIRMED COMMUNITY'S WILLINGNESS TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS VIS-A-VIS LDC'S UNDER THE TOKYO DECLARATION. REGARDING LATIN AMERICAN EXPERTS' PRELIMINARY STUDY ON TRADE TRENDS, IT WAS MUTUALLY AGREED THAT JOINT WORKING PARTY OF EXPERTS ON TRADE QUESTIONS (RE-ESTABLISHED AT PREVIOUS SESSION OF DIALOGUE) SHOULD EXAMINE THIS ISSUE IN DETAIL, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT MACROECONOMIC AND OTHER CYCLICAL FACTORS, AND REPORT BACK TO NEXT SESSION OF DIALOGUE.

5. CONCERNING COMMODITIES, THE TWO SIDES REAFFIRMED INTEREST IN "PRODUCTIVE" DIALOGUE BETWEEN INDUSTRIALIZED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT COMMON FUND NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE CONCLUDED POSITIVELY. LATINS REGRETTED THAT EC HAS NOT YET JOINED INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT AND THEREFORE IS PLAYING NO ROLE IN OPERATION OF PRICE STABILIZATION MECHANISM. EC SIDE INDICATED IT STILL HAS OPEN MIND ON THIS QUESTION, AND REITERATED CONCERNS REGARDING COMMUNITY SUGAR PRODUCERS AND THOSE OF ASSOCIATED STATES UNDER LOME CONVENTION.

6. REGARDING EC COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL COOPERATION WITH THE REGION, LATIN AMERICAN REPS: (1) REPEATED LONG-STANDING REQUEST THAT EC DEVELOP A POLICY SPECIFICALLY TAILORED TO NEEDS OF LATIN AMERICA, INCLUDING A PERMANENT FUND FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE; AND (2) SUGGESTED THAT A EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR COMMERCIAL COOPERATION WITH LDC'S (ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY EC

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COMMISSION THREE YEARS AGO) BE ESTABLISHED. EC DELEGATION "TOOK NOTE" OF THESE REQUESTS AND EXPLAINED THAT

MOST ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AFFECTING LATIN AMERICA MUST BE RESOLVED IN MULTILATERAL CONTEXT, I.E., THROUGH MTN, GSP IMPLEMENTATION, ETC. IN THIS CONTEXT, EC AMBASSADORS PROVIDED THEIR INTERLOCUTORS WITH ACCOUNT OF RECENT EC COUNCIL DECISIONS IN DEVELOPMENT FIELD, SPECIFICALLY: (A) EC CONTRIBUTION TO SPECIAL ACTION FUND AGREED AT CIEC; (B) IMPLEMENTATION OF 1977 PROGRAM OF FINANCIAL AID TO NON-ASSOCIATED DEVELOPING STATES, OF WHICH LATIN AMERICA WILL RECEIVE 22 PERCENT, OR ABOUT \$10 MILLION; (C) IMPROVEMENTS IN COMMUNITY'S 1978 GSP; AND (D) GUIDELINES FOR INCREASING EC FOOD AID WORLDWIDE.

7. IN SUM, MISSION IS TOLD BY BOTH EC COMMISSION AND LOCAL LATIN AMERICAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS THAT, WHILE DECEMBER 12 SESSION OF DIALOGUE WAS CONDUCTED IN CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE, LITTLE OF CONSTRUCTIVE NATURE WAS ACHIEVED. IN EXCHANGING VIEWS, EACH SIDE, AS IN THE PAST, MERELY "TOOK NOTE" OF OTHER'S POSITION. MOREOVER, GIVEN CURRENT CONSTRAINTS ON COMMUNITY SIDE IN TRADE AND AID FIELDS, IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THAT ANY IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE MADE SOON ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY LATINS. LATTER SIDE'S USUAL REQUEST FOR MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING, WAS SIMPLY DEFLECTED BY EC WITHOUT COMMENT. IN RESPONSE TO MISSION OFFICER'S QUESTION REGARDING HOW COMMISSION VIEWS UTILITY, AFTER SEVEN YEARS, OF THESE SEMI-ANNUAL ENCOUNTERS, COMMISSION OFFICIAL IN DIRECTORATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS REPEATED VIEW (REFTEL, PARA. 5) THAT DIALOGUE REPRESENTS "LEAST COST" MECHANISM FOR A GENERAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON SUBJECTS OF TOPICAL INTEREST WITHOUT PROVIDING LATIN AMERICANS, AS A GROUP, AN OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE COMMUNITY IN FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES.

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8. TEXTS OF PRESS RELEASE AND BOLIVIAN CO-CHAIRMAN'S
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE PROMOTION, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
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Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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SAS ID: 215207
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC/LATIN AMERICAN SEMI-ANNUAL DIALOGUE AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL, DECEMBER 12
TAGS: ETRD, EAID, XM, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6e85e002-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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